



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

2 MARCH 2022

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Mountain View – China-Linked Cyber Espionage Tool Discovered by Researchers

(U) Cybersecurity company Symantec's researchers discovered a China-linked cyber espionage tool and worked with the Biden administration to sound the alarm to targets. California-based Symantec said the Daxin malware was the most advanced it has seen used by a China-linked cyberattacker. The researchers think it was deployed in a longstanding espionage campaign against governments and critical infrastructure targets in the telecommunications, transportation, and manufacturing sectors. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) said the malware "enabled remote actors to communicate with secured devices not connected directly to the internet."

SOURCE: 1 March 2022, [The Washington Times](#)

(U) San Luis Obispo County – Nine Arrested on Human Trafficking Charges

(U) Nine people were arrested on suspicion of human trafficking-related charges in San Luis Obispo County from 6-12 February, the San Luis Obispo District Attorney's Office said in a news release. The arrests were made during a statewide operation known as Operation Reclaim and Rebuild, an annual effort led by the Los Angeles Human Trafficking Task Force that focuses on combating human trafficking in Southern California. Multiple agencies assisted with the effort, including the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office Special Operations and Special Victim's Unit, California Highway Patrol's Investigative Services Unit, and the FBI resident agency in Santa Maria.

SOURCE: 1 March 2022, [The Tribune](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) California – 15 Arrested on Smuggling Boat

(U) San Diego – Fifteen people suspected of being smuggled into the US by boat were arrested in Oceanside Monday night, federal officials said. The incident began around 9:15 p.m. when federal agents on an Air and Marine Operations helicopter detected a boat carrying several people traveling north from Mexican territorial waters, officials said. A US Coast Guard boat was launched to intercept the vessel and caught up to it about a mile north of Grandview Beach in Encinitas around 9:45 p.m., officials said. Officials contacted people on the boat and found ten men and five women on board, according to a statement by the US Border Patrol. All 15 were determined to be Mexican citizens or nationals and the group was taken to the Oceanside harbor by the Coast Guard, officials said.

SOURCE: 1 March 2022, [The San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Arizona – University Student Found with Explosives in Dorm Room

(U) Tempe – An Arizona State University (ASU) student in Tempe was arrested after admitting he had made explosives in his dorm Monday afternoon. The ASU Police Department said they received information from a student who was concerned that Logan Reynolds, 19, might have been building explosives in his Palo Verde East residence hall dorm. Court documents state Reynolds was seen holding

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two explosive devices in a social media post. Reynolds, a chemistry major, admitted he had made the devices and told police where to find them in his dorm. He also said he had no ill intentions with the devices and that he made them for entertainment, according to court documents.

SOURCE: 1 March 2022, [Arizona Republic](#)

(U) Washington – State Website Back Online Following Data Breach

(U) Olympia – After being offline for more than a month following a massive data breach earlier this year, a website run by the state Department of Licensing that allows applicants to pursue professional and business licenses yesterday was back online. The absence of the state website spurred concerns from some that their personal information had been compromised and some ended up losing income as a result of the breach. State officials said they have not known if their personal information was stolen, data that could include their Social Security numbers, e-mail addresses, and dates of birth. Authorities said the data breach remains under investigation along with how it happened.

SOURCE: 1 March 2022, [KOMO News](#)

(U) Washington – Woman Sentenced for Burning Seattle Police Vehicles During Protest

(U) Seattle – A Tacoma woman was sentenced yesterday in federal court for setting fire to five police vehicles in May 2020 during protests in downtown Seattle after the death of George Floyd. Margaret Aislinn Channon, 26, was sentenced to five-years in prison, the US Attorney's Office for the Western District of Washington announced. She pleaded guilty to arson in September. Federal authorities said Channon burned Seattle Police Department vehicles parked near Sixth and Pine on 30 May 2020 during racial justice demonstrations that swept the nation.

SOURCE: 1 March 2022, [The News Tribune](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) New Zealand – Authorities Bust Meth Ring at Airport

(U) Wellington – New Zealand police said today they had seized more than half-a-ton of methamphetamine at the border and arrested six people in one of the nation's biggest drug busts. Police said they intercepted the shipment of 1,351-pounds of meth at Auckland Airport last week and began making arrests yesterday. Police said some of those arrested have links to an Australia-based gang, the Comanchero Motorcycle Club. They said the drugs had a street value of 245 million New Zealand dollars (\$166 million).

SOURCE: 1 March 2022, [Associated Press](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-636-2900.

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